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The Hilltop 9-26-2007

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WEATHER

 **90**
69
Tomorrow:
 **84**
66

Established
1924

THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 91, NO. 21

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2007

WEDNESDAY
Notebook**BREAKING NEWS****MICHAEL VICK WAS INDICTED ON TWO STATE CHARGES AND HAS BEEN INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED WITHOUT PAY, ACCORDING TO CNN.COM.****CAMPUS****SPECIAL ELECTION RESULTS ARE TALLIED. FIND OUT WHO WON, LOST AND TIED IN THE DIFFERENT RACES.****SPORTS****THE WASHINGTON NATIONALS PLAYED THE FINAL GAME EVER AT RFK ON SUNDAY. FIND OUT THE RESULT AND FAN REACTION INSIDE.**

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PAGE 8

Cafeteria Closed Due to Health Violations

BY TRAVER RIGGINS
Campus Editor

The Blackburn Cafeteria was closed on Tuesday after an inspection by the District of Columbia Department of Health confirmed a rodent problem.

Health department records indicate that a complainant filed a complaint when rodents were sighted inside the cafeteria on delivery days.

The records confirmed the complaint was valid, but the complainant could not be reached by the health department.

"[The] establishment license was suspended after a complete inspection," the records stated. "Other violations, including back up sewage, was found."

Blackburn and Sodexo personnel have not yet responded to e-mail requests for comment through University Communications.

The university, however, has released the following statement addressing the situation: "The Howard University Cafeteria is closed today [Tuesday] to allow Sodexo Inc. and Physical Facilities Management to address quality control issues relevant to the operation of the facility. We expect to reopen for

normal operations in the shortest possible time. Students have been provided alternative options for meal services."

The Department of Health also had records of a consultation two university employees had with Western Pest Services on Sunday.

In a letter, Western addressed Stephanie Woodfork, special assistant in the Office of the Associate Vice President of Administrative Services, and Ellen Early, general manager of Sodexo operations on Howard's campus.

In the letter, Cecil Issac, commercial service supervisor with Western, outlined an action plan for addressing the rodent activity in the Blackburn Cafeteria, including weekly service and follow ups and additional placement of "rodent control devices" inside and outside the cafeteria and in the cooler box. A log book for rodent sightings is to be used for each sighting.

"It is very important that all sightings are recorded in this book so that our technicians will know where to service on his arrival," Issac stated in the letter.

Other instructions Issac outlined in the letter were to seal all holes, properly store food, ensure door sweeps are the proper length, repair the trash compactor door and not to agitate "exterior rodent stations."

Blacks in the Prison Pipeline

Celebrities, Parents of Jena Six Declare Crisis for Black Teens Across the Nation



Tyrone Clemens & Jeremy Burket - Staff Photographers
Caseptla Bailey (above), Robert Bailey's mother, shares her angst. Robert M. Franklin, Jr. (far left), speaks while Bill Cosby (center) and Juan Williams look on.

Bill Cosby Discusses the Issue

BY LINSAY ISSACS
Staff Writer

Cramton Auditorium was filled with students and national speakers Tuesday, as the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) opened a national summit presented in part by educator and entertainer Bill Cosby, Ph.D.

The summit was held to address an issue in America today, known as the "Cradle to Prison Pipeline Crisis." The slogan refers to the epidemic of poverty stricken homes and communities, as well as the absence of major role models, including parents, in youth's lives.

A panel of prominent educators lined the stage, speaking out against the issue in society and encouraging aid to the deprived youth of America.

The two-day summit, which will continue today, included a panel of three educators on Tuesday. Beside Cosby were Juan Williams, senior correspondent for National Public Radio, and Robert Michael Franklin, Jr., the tenth president of Morehouse College. The prominent names bought attention from Howard students, who attended the event.

"[CDF] helped raise awareness to this issue," said freshman political science major Sebastian King. "Having Bill Cosby there was good to reel in more people."

The non-profit organization, which began in 1973, sets out to ensure all children a healthy start with their Leave No Child Behind slogan, as well. The Children's Defense Fund and its affiliates are currently in the process of traveling over the United States.

> See **COSBY**, Page 3

Jena Residents Share Their Stories

BY VANESSA ROZIER
Nation & World Editor

From one pair of brown eyes to another, a little boy asked how he could get to prison. He raved about their beds, the food they serve, the new school books they provide and the fact that air conditioning and heat are available year-round. The 10-year-old black boy wanted to join his friends in a prison where 400 of the 900 beds inside sleep 13 to 19-year olds.

Writer Constance Curry shared this story with an attentive, mobilized audience in Cramton Auditorium last night. Curry was accompanied by Jena Six mothers Caseptla Bailey, Dwanda Jones and Tina Jones, Robert Bailey's stepmother Catrina Wallace, Louisiana Civil Rights lawyer Tracie Washington and CEO of the Friends of Justice in Texas, Alan Bean.

These mothers, fathers, activists and history-makers came together from around the nation, and overseas, to discuss racial injustices and the prison pipeline.

"You get to prison just by

being there," Curry said in reference to life as a black person in Jena, La. and the school system in a racist environment. Curry was an activist and journalist during the Civil Rights Movement. The Jena Six case reminds her of a time of forced integration 43 years ago accompanied with name-calling, shootings into houses and life-threatening hate crimes.

Breaking it down for the mainly young audience, Curry said, "The battleground has changed, but the battle itself has not."

"After the rally on Thursday we started to get threatening phone calls," Tina Jones, Bryant Purvis' mother, said. She said that in the five days since all eyes were on Jena, threats of lynching and burning her house down invaded her life. She received calls saying, "I'm gonna get your kids," flooded her telephone.

Purvis is now a senior high school student out of state and playing on the basketball team, but not all of the Six are that fortunate. Mychal Bell is still incarcerated.

> See **MOTHERS**, Page 3

Bush Neglects War in Iraq at U.N. Peace Conference

BY WILLIAM DOUGLAS
McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

UNITED NATIONS — President Bush implored the United Nations on Tuesday to recommit itself to restoring human decency by liberating oppressed people and ending famine and disease.

Speaking before the United Nations General Assembly, the president called for renewed efforts to enforce the U.N.'s Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a striking point of emphasis for a leader who's widely accused of violating human rights in waging war against terrorism.

Bush didn't mention the U.S. prisons in Afghanistan or at Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo Bay, the U.S. practice of holding detainees for years without legal charges or access to lawyers, or the CIA's "rendition" kidnappings of suspects abroad, all issues of concern to human rights activists around the world.

"At first read, it's little more than an exercise in hypocrisy. His words about human rights ring hollow because his credibility is nonexistent," said Curt Goering, the deputy executive director of Amnesty International USA. "The gap between the rhetoric and the actual record is stunning. I can't help but believe many people in the audience were thinking, 'What was this man thinking?'"

Still, some groups, such as the bipartisan One: The Campaign to Make Poverty History, praised Bush for calling for a recommitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The president spoke of every civilized nation's "responsibility to stand up for the people suffering under dictatorship." He said the United States was doing its part by imposing new sanctions against the military dictatorship in Myanmar, formerly known as Burma.

"Americans are outraged by the situation in Burma, where a military junta has imposed a 19-year reign of fear," Bush said. "Basic freedoms of speech, assembly and worship are severely restricted. Ethnic minorities are



Chuck Kennedy - McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

persecuted."

The president also had sharp words for Iran, North Korea, Belarus, Syria, Zimbabwe and Sudan for having "brutal regimes" that "deny their people the fundamental rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration" of Human Rights. He omitted any reference to repressive regimes allied with his war on terrorism, including Egypt, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Russia and China.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad sat in the U.N. chamber, often checking his watch, during Bush's remarks. Cuban officials walked out during Bush's 20-minute speech.

He took the United Nations to task, saying it needs to be overhauled in order to be credible. He accused the Security Council of ignoring human rights violations by Venezuela, North Korea and Iran while constantly criticizing Israel.

He employed a softer tone from previous U.N. appearances, however. He embraced the United Nations as useful, in contrast to his earlier attitude that the body was — as he once said — "an international debating society."

But he brushed past the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and didn't mention Iran's alleged nuclear threat, the biggest global flash points today.

Not Much to Blast About Shuttle Services

BY CHRISTINA BURTON
Staff Writer

A small gathering of students put their issues with the shuttle services "on blast" at Tuesday's first "Put It On Blast" forum run by the Howard University Student Association and the Office of Parking and Shuttle Operation Services.

Director of OPSSO Clifford Smith took comments, suggestions and complaints from students that covered everything from the attitudes of the shuttle drivers, the confusion of the routes and even the possibility of a more strict service schedule, especially at night and in the mornings servicing Howard Plaza Towers and the Slowe/Carver stops.

Alicia Criner, a senior marketing major, commended Smith and OPSSO on the revamping of the routes and the shuttles' appearances, but suggested that schedules be posted on the stands at the shuttle stops so that students will have an easier access to the schedules.

Smith, who took notes throughout the entire "blast," said that even though the group in attendance was small, the input from students is the best way for their issues to be handled.

"I haven't really gotten any negative feedback about shuttle services," Smith said. "So you guys being here helps. [Your] feedback helps."

"One reason why I adjusted the shuttle service this year was because of the complaints, the comments I got from RA's and students," Smith added.

One of the major complaints that Smith heard last year was that there wasn't enough service to Slowe Hall and Carver Hall compared to other routes.

Students also claimed that some of the shuttle drivers' attitudes were unprofessional. Suggestions of a sensitivity training or an orientation with sessions on professional behavior were brought up. Smith said that training of that nature would be brought to the attention of Interna-



tional Limo, the company that Howard contracts the shuttles and their drivers from.

This year the shuttle services have been divided into north and south routes with digital displays on the front, side and rear of each shuttle clarifying where each shuttle is going. However some students do not feel that the drivers stay on schedule or en route.

"We're not putting anybody on blast," said Rob-

erts. "We're putting issues on blast."

Previous HUSA administrations used to talk directly with Swygert about student issues. Each month this year, HUSA plans to have about two or three sessions that Roberts calls "more intimate" and issue-based.

"It made more sense to talk to the person who is directly involved with the ser-

> See **SHUTTLES**, Page 3

Life at the Mecca: Casey Crawford Designs for Cause

BY CHRISTINA BURTON
staff writer

By this time senior year, Howard "ready-to-grads" are easing the job market and focusing on passing the remainder of their classes that afford them graduation. As for Casey Crawford, his job market was here at the Mecca all along.

Crawford, a graphic design major and advertising minor, began his career in entrepreneurship at Howard during his freshman year.

He and close friends — who are now his business partners — senior film production major Javier Ramos and senior marketing major Hollis Chin Kee Fatt started a clothing line called Free Style, which they wore and marketed, but never got the chance to sell due to financial holdbacks.

"I've always been creative," Crawford said. "I can't help progressing, especially when

I get around influential people. You can't help but to merge together."

Through years and name changes (Free Style turned out the be trademarked by a Target Stores casual brand) the company, now called Have Knots, has maintained the same vision.

In support of the Jena Six, Crawford said Have Knots will be promoting its campaign called "There Is No I in Black". Crawford said that along with the clothing line, the purpose is to uplift black people. Shirts with the message are due as the first item out.

"Time is a good thing in our case," Crawford said, "because we saved up money for production costs. We've been working hard since the beginning together."

He hopes to have garments in stores like Common-wealth and Up Against The Wall by fall 2008.

Crawford lives the typical life of a senior on the grind. Having lived off campus last year, Crawford's bachelor pad, which includes two other tenants, is his only place to pump the brakes. He works two jobs and maintains a 2.1-credit scheme.

He said his hardest class is African-American art and history, "because I have to stay awake. It's from 6:30 until 9:00 at night. It's very boring."

Hailing from St. Louis, Crawford cherishes both of his parents. He also has two siblings.

Along with the hectic lifestyle behind working and fronting his clothing line, Crawford is a National Dean's List member and a model.

He helped showcase the Homecoming fashion show for the last two years, and is disappointed he won't be appearing in this year's show.

"I wish I could get another little taste," he said, reflect-

ing on his two years in the spotlight as he makes room for new models to hit the Homecoming stage.

Crawford also participated in BET's "Rip The Runway" last year and Fashion Week in New York last September.

In his spare time, Crawford finds himself at his house with his friends or drawing his next tattoo. He does not know how many tattoos he has.

"A bunch. I probably spent over \$1,900 in the tattoo parlor," Crawford said, scanning his body for all viewable tattoos, most of which have some Biblical imagery to them.

Although Howard was Crawford's dream college and his first and only choice, he's got the same Howard student problems, including the administrative quarrels and hoops that Bison have to jump through around registration time.

"I think I've jumped



Photo Courtesy of Casey Crawford

Graduating senior Casey Crawford (right) is ready to pursue his career aspirations in modeling, graphics, and fashion.

on the 'senior ready to graduate' bandwagon," Crawford said. "I'm ready to move to New York and do ad work, design and model."

He added, "I'm ready

Special Elections Results are In

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Name	Position	No. Votes	%
Cydnia Young	Executive Treasurer	85	41.46%
Durell Hairston	Executive Treasurer	45	21.95%
James Sims	Executive Treasurer	80	39.02%
Tiffany Cox	Senior Class Secretary	18	100%
Sherise Johns	Senior Class Treasurer	5	100.0%
Charlanna Ray	Junior Class Secretary	14	100%
Shaquita Ogletree	Junior Class Representative	16	100%
Edward Hill	Sophomore Class Representative	31	100%
Pierre Whalley	Freshman Class President	59	41.55%
Miana Graves	Freshman Class President	17	11.97%
Iran Heavey	Freshman Class President	27	19.01%
Corey Briscoe	Freshman Class President	39	27.46%
Justin Askew	Freshman Class Vice-President	96	71.11%
Salice Kelley	Freshman Class Vice-President	28	20.74%
Echoe Malone	Freshman Class Vice-President	11	8.15%
Alvin Staley	Freshman Class Treasurer	123	100%
Kristal Hansley	Freshman Class Secretary	98	77.17%
Kimberly Glover	Freshman Class Secretary	29	22.83%
***Randy Etheleau	Freshman Class Representative	51	41.80%
***Syasia Blake	Freshman Class Representative	47	38.52%
***Rhushanda Burke	Freshman Class Representative	24	19.67%

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Name	Position	No. Votes	%
Elizabeth Johnson	Junior Class Secretary	4	100%
Jonathan Houston	Freshman Class President	3	3.6%
Ejobogan Mofoye	Freshman Class President	33	39.7%
Marquel Russel	Freshman Class President	12	14.4%
Justin Morrison	Freshman Class President	5	6.0%
Christopher Ard	Freshman Class President	8	9.6%
Jewel Burks	Freshman Class President	22	26.5%
Ashley Foote	Freshman Class Vice-President	40	48.7%
Ndeye Diop	Freshman Class Vice-President	7	8.5%
Ariel Jones	Freshman Class Vice-President	3	3.6%
Chavonne Henderson	Freshman Class Vice-President	32	39.0%
Keith Mayo	Freshman Class Treasurer	74	100.0%
Jessica Patton	Freshman Class Secretary	34	43.0%
Unique James	Freshman Class Secretary	45	56.9%

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURE, and COMPUTER SCIENCE

Name	Position	No. Votes	%
Cierra Ross	Executive Treasurer	47	100.0%
Kyle Spence	UGSA Representative	58	100.0%
Jared Culp	Sophomore Class Vice-President	6	27.2%
Yasmin Humphrey	Sophomore Class Vice-President	14	63.6%
Torian Black	Sophomore Class Vice-President	2	9.0%
Carmyn Robey	Freshman Class President	22	75.9%
Jacob Shodiya	Freshman Class President	7	24.1%
Sharnay Clark	Freshman Class Vice-President	25	100.0%

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, NURSING, and ALLIED HEALTH

Name	Position	No. Votes	%
Alicia Jones	UGSA Representative	10	29.4%
Ashley Jones	UGSA Representative	24	70.5%

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Name	Position	No. Votes	%
Yaa Nana Adu	Executive Secretary	1	100.0%
Laura Straughn	Judicial Coordinator	2	100.0%

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Name	Position	No. Votes	%
Sophia Nur	Executive President	24	100.0%
Shameka Cathey	Judicial Coordinator	34	100.0%
Deshonna Collier	GSA Representative	21	28.8%
Imani Cheers	GSA Representative	18	24.7%
Jerome Hunt	GSA Representative	33	45.21%

SCHOOL OF DIVINITY

Name	Position	No. Votes	%
Yorri Berry	Executive Treasurer	4	100.0%
Denise Grant	Executive Secretary	4	100.0%
Toni Ross	Inter-Seminarian	4	100.0%
Michael Fisher	Inter-Seminarian	4	100.0%

Graphic Courtesy of Bukola Ekundayo

Students voted on BisonWeb in special elections Tuesday to determine positions left vacant after the spring elections. The elections were also held to elect freshmen to office with the start of the new school year. Bolded names are the unofficial winners. Since all winners must carry at least 51 percent of the vote, bolded and italicized names will participate in a runoff on Tuesday. Names marked with asterisks will participate in a re-election due to an administrative error on the ballot, according to Special Elections Commissioner Bukola Ekundayo. All election day grievances must be filed today by 7 p.m.

What to Learn How to Write?

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Youth Imprisonment in the Black Community Focus of Conference

Continued from **FRONT,**
COSBY

to relay information of this epidemic and offer a solution. In addition to finding a solution, which includes "rebuilding families, healthy marriages, and healthy relationships", the panelists mentioned the lack of caring adults in communities, and the lack of role models.

"Adults are what are wrong with our children," Cosby said.

The author of the recent book, "Come On People!: On the Path from Victims to Victors," continued to bring attention to the dismantled homes. Cosby subtly charged the adults to forget about their responsibilities as leaders in the community, and even noted the allegations against him relating to his opinions on the community.

Various media outlets painted Cosby as almost a hypocrite, saying that because he is merely a comedian and is not a victim, he does not understand. Nevertheless, Cosby continued throughout the summit to explain the various problems arising within the communities, including children being born into single family homes, poor education, and inadequate efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.

"I agree that it starts at the home," King said, one of the many students to attend the summit. "Parents must essentially man up to give us progress. We have to look out for others, if we see someone on the wrong track we have to set them right."

This in particular, consists of black males who are not being trained and rehabilitated, according to Franklin. One out of three African-Americans end up

in prison, as well as one out of six Hispanic men. Between 2005-2006, the child poverty rates were the highest in the District of Columbia, with 32.6 percent of the population. These and other factors limit the growth of youth's ability to be successful out of the streets, adding to the penitentiary system's expansion. Keeping kids out of jail at such a drastic age is the primary focus of CDF's Cradle to Prison Pipeline campaign.

"What if we used our ingenuity to return [convicts] to the community," Franklin said. "While they're on parole, why don't we protect them [from going back]. When they leave they are a serving part of the community."

He continued, "Where are the churches? Why aren't they opening and creating a safe refuge?" The panel continued to discuss the issues arising with black males, focusing on their absence in the community.

"We need real black teaching males," Cosby said. "The black male student sees women in his home, females in the classroom and starts to lose hope. We need to see more of us standing [in classrooms]."

The summit continued on throughout the day, with various stories from both youth and parent advocates. They encouraged the participation from community members to listen to children and lend a helping hand to resolve the epidemic.

"If you care enough," said youth advocate, Jasbir Singh, "you save lives."

The summit will continue today with presentations in both the Blackburn Ballroom and the Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel.

Continued from **FRONT,**
MOTHERS

"We'll always have the majority if all of the black men are in jail," said Bean, a white civil rights activist.

As a civil rights lawyer and mother herself, Washington said that it is time to "protect our children, especially our young males of color." Engrossed in racial legal matters, she asked everyone to work toward a solution of racism by treating young people as "precious commodities," start "challenging anyone who tries to bring harm to our children" and to make it extremely uncomfortable to be racist anywhere in America.

Concluding Part III of the Children's Defense Fund "Cradle to Prison Pipeline Crisis in America" program, this session generated solutions to ending the "prison pipeline" that young people, mainly young people of color, experience.

Wallace suggested that there be more recreational options for young people in Jena to keep

them off the streets, out of jail and away from those who choose to continue to be racist.

"We're trying to put together a five year plan to prevent the pipeline from school to prison," said Dennie Littlejohn, chair of the Tennessee Disproportionate Minority Confinement Task Force. "We came here because we're trying to figure out how do we stop it."

Michael Browne, a junior health management major, said, "Changing the educational system will alleviate the problems in our impoverished communities." Browne lead the organization of the bus trip for Howard University students to participate in the Jena Six rally on Thursday.

"As a young black man, how do you pride yourself if you only learn through a Eurocentric point of view?" Browne asked. "It was a great program but we always tread too lightly. It's time to get serious."

Learn to Write!

Hilltop Writing Workshops Wednesdays @ 6pm

Shuttle Upgrades Lauded at Town Hall

Continued from **FRONT,**
SHUTTLES

vice than talk to Swygert," Roberts added.

According to Roberts, the University of Maryland has a convenient shuttle box system set up at each bus stop. Schedules are in each box for students to view as they stand at the shuttle stops.

"Once we get those boxes in, it'll help alleviate the confusion that students are having," Roberts said.

Smith says that students who are not at shuttle stops should not be picked up and that if they have any issues, students should contact him via email or phone.

"I've seen one driver that was bold enough to be in the back of the shuttle just chilling," said Darrion Woods, a junior and a student services co-coordinator.

A few students mentioned a driver who calls himself "Bernie" who goes on break when he feels and has a bad attitude when addressing students. Smith said that the driver was fired however students say he is back.

The Banneker lot was a subject of controversy in regards to its efficiency. The lot, Smith says, is unable to be developed more because the District of Columbia has an emergency generator under the grounds.

"Part of that area is for emergency prepared response. There is a huge electric generator under that lot incase another 9/11 happens. They dig up that lot and use it as a back up," Smith explained.

The suggestion of a meet and greet in the beginning and half year of every year to get shuttle drivers familiar with students was made and noted by Smith. Also, students agreed that signs should be posted in the shuttles that have the shuttle driver names and the phone numbers to call if a problem should need to be reported.

Ware warned that shuttle drivers are human beings too and they are not the only ones who have off days.

"A lot of times, students get on the shuttle with an attitude," Ware said.

Part of Marcus Ware, HUSA president, and Will Robert's, vice president, platform for HUSA candidacy was "put it on blast", meaning that students should be able to present their issues to HUSA allowing HUSA to gather concerns and bring them to the people. The next "Put It On Blast" forums will involve Information Systems Services, the Office of Residence Life, Sodexho and the Campus Police Department starting again on October 24.

The HUSA Advocacy directors and student services coordinators offered themselves as liaisons at students' disposal when it comes to any shuttle service or parking issues.

"They can contact me, Jessica Bailey, the deputy director. The can come to the HUSA office at anytime. Email us, our numbers are available," Paris Walker, director of Student Advocacy, said.

The next scheduled forums will be held on October 24, November 14 and December 6.

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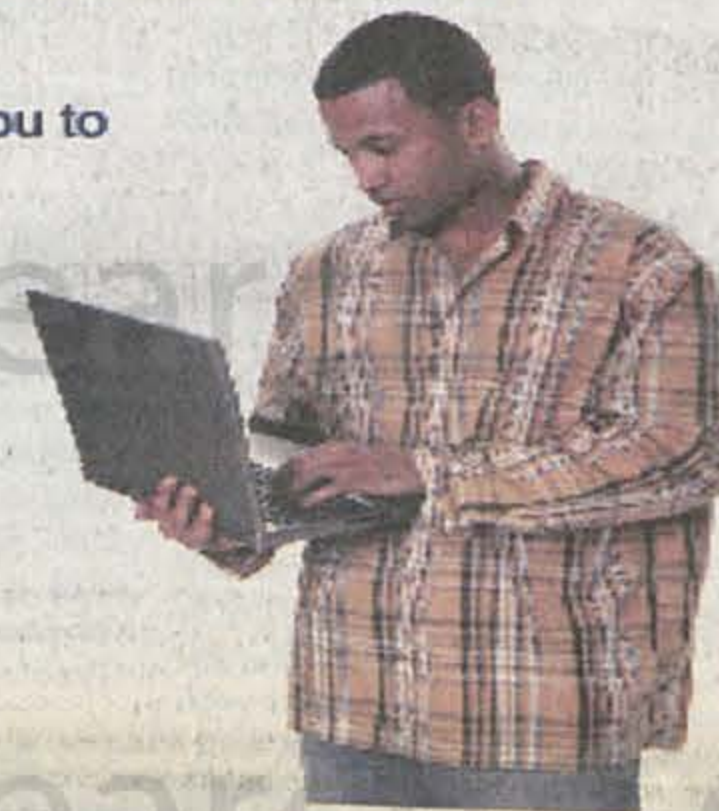
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New Lexus Models Improve Safety to Extreme

BY LINSEY ISAACS
Staff Writer

Automobile safety has reached an entirely new level with the advances in technology made by various car manufacturers. From airbags to rear backup cameras, manufacturers have created a Pre-Crash Safety system packed with new Driver Monitoring Systems being piloted by the highest selling brand of luxury cars—the Lexus.

The new Lexus LS 600h, set to debut on Oct. 1, features a series of safety enhancements to prevent automobile crashes.

The technology recognizes potentially dangerous situations by using both cameras and scans to minimize collisions. The Driver Monitoring System has six cameras mounted on top of the steering column, which uses algorithms to plot the position of the driver's facial features and monitor their movements, measuring the width and center line of the face.

When the driver looks in a direction more than 15 degrees away from the area in front of them while there is a prospective collision ahead, the system warns the driver and briefly applies the breaks. If the attempt fails and

the driver does not respond to the warning, the seatbelts are retracted and the emergency brakes are prepared.

When a collision is inevitable, Pre-Crash Intelligent Headrests are activated, moving the car's headrests up 35 millimeters and forward 60 millimeters. The cushioned headrests are utilized to prevent the possibility of a whiplash injury.

Cameras are also placed in the rear of the car, allowing drivers to fully view what is behind them whether the car is in motion or not.

The LX 470, a safety vehicle which was unveiled in 2006, is the epitome of the Lexus brand's drive to improve safety on the road.

The vehicle is equipped with similar rear backup mirrors and both front seat and second row curtain airbags.

Among these features also lies the advanced optional Night View System, which uses near-infrared technology to illuminate pedestrians or other obstacles at night. By giving a clearer view to the driver, whether they use high or low beams, the chances of an accident due to the inability to see is decreased.

"With premium luxury, outstanding safety features and



Drivers who buy the new Lexus LS 600h (above) can ride around with a greater sense of security as the car's safety features utilize the latest technology and cameras to prevent carelessness from turning into a head on collision.

superior off-pavement capability, the LX 470 continues to exceed the high expectations of its owners," Lexus group vice president and general manager Bob Carter said in a press release. "We're certain that the enhancements for 2006 will help the LX 470 continue to set the standard for premium luxury in its segment."

New models of the LS

600h vehicle were tested among 100 different drivers and more than 60,000 miles, proving that these features would function correctly regardless of the way the driver is seated or their facial features.

Despite the amount of work being done to protect drivers, the public is still skeptical about the excessive use of auto-

mated car safety.

"It's a little bit too much in a car," Porsha Blakey, a freshman international business major, said. "I would hate to be in a car and it malfunctions or something goes wrong. It's dangerous."

But, safety has not always been a priority for carmakers. Seatbelts, for example, were not introduced to the public until

1950, and were not considered a vital part of the driving experience until years later. Other automobile necessities such as safety glass windows were not introduced until 1924. The first stop sign in Detroit appeared shortly after 1914.

The lack of safety features available when automobiles first hit the roads did not cause as much of a disruption as a similar situation would result in today. The simplicity of those safety values has now caused the whirlwind of technology to take over, causing the extreme safety upgrades in cars today. However, the public still believes that although the necessity for safety features in vehicles is high, the use of technology is too tremendous.

"I think it's good that we're making progress in improving our safety," said sophomore political science major Ryan Jeter. "But I do believe that there are other things we can use this technology for."

The safety features including rear backup cameras and cameras mounted on the steering column will be standard in the Lexus sedans LS 460, LS 600h and LS 600h L. These models will be available to the public within the coming month.

Amateur Online Videos Are Putting Police in the Hot Seat

BY TODD FRANKEL
St. Louis Post-Dispatch (MCT)

ST. LOUIS — What the video captures is confusing, but at least this much is clear: A St. Louis city police officer pepper-sprays the man holding the camera. The video cuts to the officer walking toward the man in his backyard, then abruptly turning around and leaving.

"You've seen on videotape what he just did!" the cameraman yells.

The video was shot back in 2004, in a confrontation between city police and Danny Carter, a St. Louis resident.

But it wasn't until a few months ago that the video found a worldwide audience on YouTube. From there it found an attorney.

"Without the video it's very unlikely this case would have been taken," said attorney Rodney Holmes, who in July filed a federal suit on Carter's behalf alleging civil rights abuses by city police.

A police spokesman declined to comment on the litigation but said a police report justified the officers' interaction with Carter, who was wanted on outstanding warrants.

Using video to capture candid moments with police is not new. In 1991 a bystander videotaped the beating of Rodney King in Los Angeles.

But how such video gets spread has changed dramatically. Thanks to video-sharing Web sites such as YouTube, Google Video or Metacafe, a video clip can reach thousands — even millions — in just days.

Such speed was on display earlier this month with the video shot by a 20-year-old St. Louis resident of his interaction with an angry St. George, Ill., police officer. The clip, almost 13 minutes long, has been viewed more than 500,000 times in five days. The man who shot it, Brett Darrow, is now a quasi-celebrity. He has been interviewed on national networks such

as CNN and MSNBC.

Sites such as YouTube have spawned an explosion of these "police misconduct" videos — scenes from Kansas City to California to Malaysia — and plenty of questions about what exactly people are seeing. No one vets the images. Questions about editing and baiting are not addressed. There is no context. The brief clips are just uploaded and allowed to float out into the public domain.

But the videos are having an effect, says Greg Slate, director of the Police Complaint Center, a nonprofit police watchdog group in Washington. "It really is changing how people perceive police officers," Slate said.

Slate's group has turned catching police wrongdoing into a cottage industry. The group helps people find outlets for their videos. It also hires itself out to news organizations — almost exclusively TV stations — to do undercover stings of local police departments.

In January, Slate was hired by KTVI in St. Louis to visit police stations with a hidden camera and ask for a police complaint form. He visited several towns, including Bel-Nor, Maplewood and Florissant. He met considerable resistance. In Pine Lawn, he was arrested and charged with "failure to comply" after a police sergeant got upset with Slate's request. The charge was dropped.

Now people are taking advantage of these new distribution methods. This year, the ACLU of Eastern Missouri began handing out handheld Hi-8 video cameras to residents of St. Louis' Fairground Park neighborhood. Activists say police mistreat black residents. So far 10 cameras have been distributed. Nothing of interest has been shot yet. But, says Redditt Hudson, ACLU racial justice manager, the cameras empower people and provide a protective factor because police in that area know they may be videotaped.

"Another dynamic I see developing with the power of video on the Internet is that mainstream America is becoming aware of the scale and scope of this problem," Hudson says.

St. Louis police spokesman Richard Wilkes said police welcomed the cameras. "We have nothing to hide," he said.

Sites such as YouTube make it impossible to hide. And the widespread distribution of clips can put pressure on authorities to act against police misconduct. Last year, footage of a UCLA student being Tasered by campus police in the library sparked widespread outrage. A UCLA report found the officer's actions "unnecessary, avoidable and excessive."

And even footage shot by police can find new life on YouTube. Thousands of people have viewed the cruiser-cam video of two Kansas City police officers who didn't call an ambulance for a pregnant woman during a traffic stop in February 2006. They believed she was lying about her condition. The woman later miscarried. A judge is considering how to discipline the two officers.

But a video camera does not guarantee compelling footage.

Take, for example, the short YouTube clip from someone called "Omahacopwatcher."

The video shows a young man preparing to ask for forms to file a complaint against an Omaha police officer. "We suspect they will not be giving us these complaint [forms] so easily," he tells the camera.

Anticipating a confrontation, he can be seen approaching a female officer behind a glass booth. He asks for 10 complaint forms. The female officer smiles and says, "OK. That's fine."

As she walks away to fill his request, he turns to the camera and smiles sheepishly.

"Well, that's surprising," he says.



Apple Keeps Macs Exclusive in Market

BY KHALID MUHAMMAD
Editorial Assistant

Exclusivity may be the credo for Apple Inc., but could the stubbornness not to make their computers available through retail be hurting them? Yes and no.

Potential PC consumers looking to upgrade to a new computer are left with a daunting decision: choosing a vulnerable Windows Vista or a relatively outdated XP. Microsoft's monopoly on the PC market has created a loyal breed of technological consumers.

But in this relationship, where the consumer exchanges billions yearly, many are left unfulfilled, cheated by viruses and crashing operating systems.

Apple's Macintosh may prove to be the needed alternative for one who can no longer trust the dominant force in this mistrustful relationship.

"I have a Dell," said sophomore biology major Tricia Talbot. "Two of my roommates have Macs, and they say they love it. I think that Mac is going to take over. Adapting to the change from PC is weird at first, but once you get used to it, they are pretty nice."

In 1985, Apple held its highest market share at 16 percent, a number that could mean so much for them today in 2007 when sales account for billions yearly.

In the bland and static PC market, consumers are continually searching for an alternative to the fatally flawed Vista operating system.

One thing putting off consumers from making the choice to side with Mac is that it is not easily available to find and test at retail stores.

"I don't think it's that exclusive if one can easily go to a Mac store," said Mac owner and sophomore marketing major Hakeem Gaines.

But, most will find that they can only touch the actual product at Apple retail stores, mostly located in large metropolitan areas.

Therefore, if one lives in the middle of nowhere, the only choice is to venture

online and make a purchase without getting a hands-on feel for the computer.

Consumers are left with two options — blindly believe the hype and purchase a Mac, or veer away and go with the prominent, almost universally available PC, which could also put one in danger of catching a virus since most security flaws plague PCs.

"I think that their exclusivity is part of their branding," Gaines said. "It's all about the image they want to portray. Personally, I like that it's not that easily available. It makes me feel like I got something exclusive. I feel special to be a Mac owner."

Countering Gaines' opinion, sophomore civil engineering major Rykiel Robinson said, "PCs run everything. But truth

be told, the only reason I like PCs is because they are everywhere. They're in your classroom and in your offices."

Robinson hits right on the subject at hand, that is, since PCs can be found almost everywhere, they may forever control the majority share on the computer market.

By not making Apple's available through many retailers, the company may be sacrificing sales in order to stick by integrity.

Another factor contributing to consumers not committing to a Mac is that its price is much higher than most PCs.

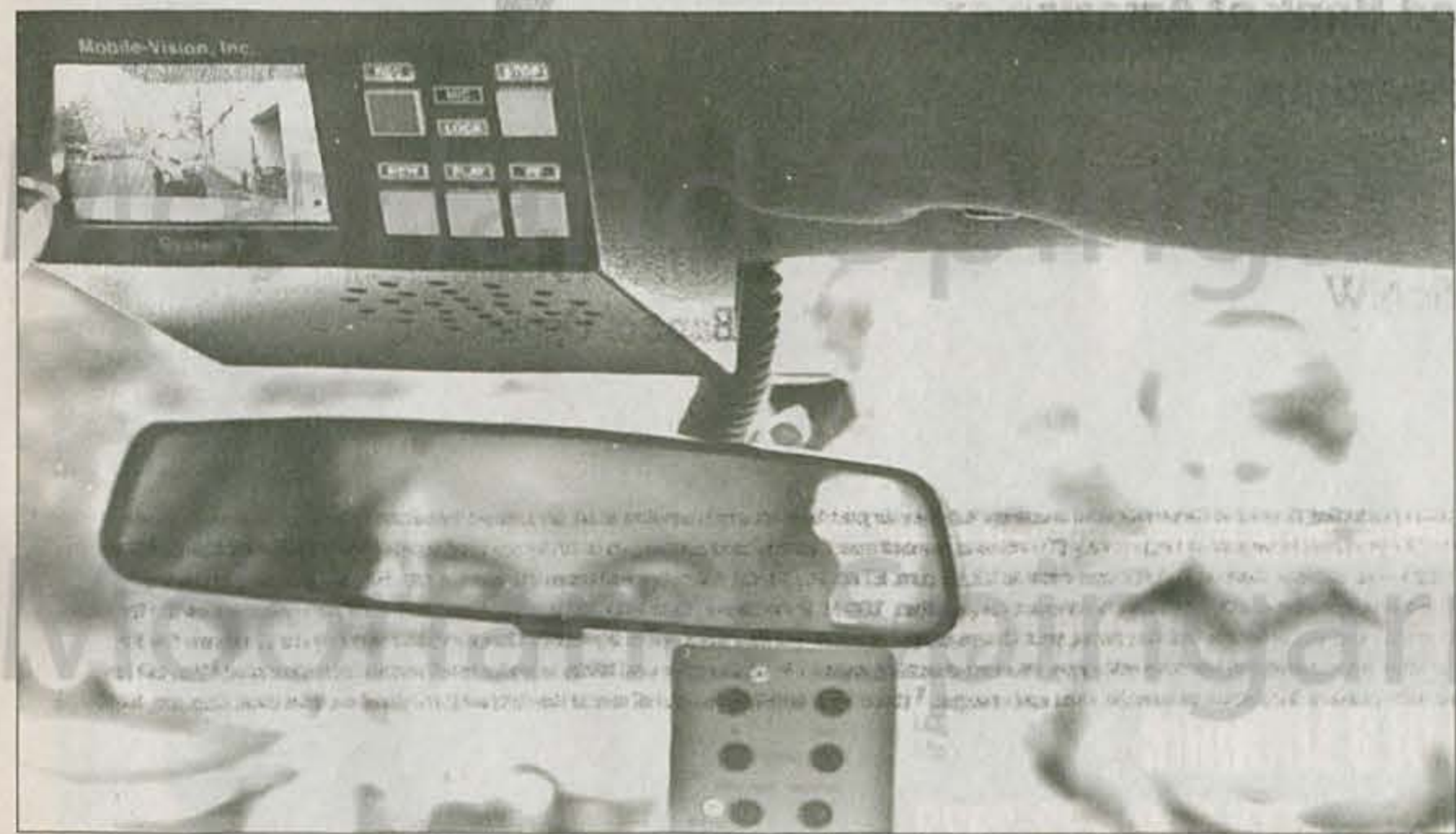
"They are so expensive," Robinson said. "I really don't want to pay \$1,500 for a computer."

In the end, one would have to go inside the business mind of Apple computers and see if it longs to be sold in the same stores next to PCs.

To the average consumer, Apple's overall marketing plan is to retain a level of boutique-like exclusivity and provide top-notch service to the niche they have developed since their inception in 1977.

Many would agree that that is an honorable approach to business.

Talbot said, "In five years, I think that people are going to be like, 'What's Dell?' I really should go and upgrade and get a Mac."



Footage shot by police officers via in-car cameras or so-called cruiser-cams (above) is even finding its way to YouTube.

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Nationals Triumph in Final Game At RFK Stadium



The Washington Nationals played their last home game at RFK stadium Sunday. The team will move to a new state-of-the-art ballpark on the Southeast Waterfront in April 2008.

BY JAMMEL DAVIS
Contributing Writer

As the Washington Nationals closing pitcher Chad Cordero steps to the mound, he realizes the importance of this game. In front of a season high 40,000 fans, Cordero prepares for the final inning in Robert F. Kennedy Stadium.

In attendance, fan Patrice Cochran said, "People seemed very focused on the Nationals winning the game, very focused on the game itself. It was close with a lot of ups and downs and momentum shifts."

With three different lead changes, the Nationals entered

the ninth inning leading the Philadelphia Phillies 5-2. The pressure could be felt in the air and on the field, with this game being a must-win situation for both teams.

The Phillies, who are tied with San Diego for the National League wildcard spot and just two games back from the NL East division lead, need to win every game in order to make it to the playoffs.

For the Nationals, the must-win is for a different reason. Being more than 18 games back from the division lead and more than 16 games back from the wildcard spot, the Nationals have no postseason chance.

Another Nationals fan in attendance described the mood as nostalgic, saying "everyone was hoping for a win and trying to go out with a bang."

After giving up a run, the Nationals lead just 5 to 3, the Phillies with runners on the first and second bases.

Nationals' fan David Sturn said, "The ninth inning was exciting. Trying to strike out the last player was a great moment."

Up to bat, third baseman Wes Helms — with two strikes and two balls — received the pitch. Sent zipping towards home plate, Cordero threw a fast ball, high and centered. Helms

leaned into it, swung and fans got the bang they wanted. It was strike three, as the ball hit catcher Schneider's glove.

The crowd erupted in unison as fireworks exploded over the stadium. "You couldn't have had a better ending than that," Sturn said.

With the win Sunday night, the Nationals improved to a winning record, but not for the season. The Nationals look to finish 15 games under 500, but an overall winning record to close out their three-year tenure in RFK Stadium.

Next season, the Nationals will commence play in their new stadium, located off of South Capitol Street, just one block from the Anacostia River. With a price tag of \$611 million, the 41,222-seat stadium will be the new home of the Washington Nationals beginning in the 2008 season.

According to the Nationals organization, the stadium is "An innovative design of steel, glass and pre-cast concrete to create a facility that uniquely reflects the architecture of Washington, D.C."

For the past three seasons, the Nationals have called RFK stadium home, though the stadium has always been a temporary home for the team.

Since the Montreal Expos originally moved to Washington, D.C. and became the Nationals, plans have always been for a new stadium to be designed exclusively

for baseball. Since RFK is the fourth oldest active major league park, it is considered archaic and out of date.

"It's just outdated," Nationals fan Rachel Beasley said. "It really needs to be upgraded to be on the level of other stadiums. It just can't compete."

Since its opening in 1961, RFK Stadium has had various teams claim it as their home. Built for both baseball and football, it was the first stadium designed for both sports. It originally housed both the Washington Redskins for 36 seasons, and the American league baseball team, the Washington Senators, who left in 1972 and became the Texas Rangers.

After Sunday's final game, RFK will be the sole home to the Major League soccer team D.C. United, who also plan to relocate in the near future.

The new stadium will give the Nationals an authentic ballpark built for baseball, improving the fans' experiences of the games.

"You can play ball anywhere," Nationals fan Jim Keyes said. "But I've lived in other cities where they had baseball-specific stadiums built, and the difference it makes is huge."

Problems fans cited with RFK included obstructed views from seats, a lack of TV monitors throughout the halls, chipping paint, old wooden seats and

terrible concessions. Nationals enthusiast Dan Beasley said, "The concessions were terrible. You would stand in line for 45 minutes only to find out you couldn't get a sausage." Other fans spoke of the undersized scoreboard, which was hard to see, or the old speaker system, which was at times hard to hear.

"You couldn't hear anything where we were up in the nosebleed section," said Rachel Beasley, wife of Dan Beasley. "The sound system is terrible there."

The new stadium's upgrades include 181 concession stands, compared to RFK's 102, wider and larger hallways that would allow fans to move around easily.

There will also be a new speaker system with a high definition LED scoreboard more than three times the size of RFK's current scoreboard, totaling in 4,532 square feet in size.

Anticipation continues to grow for the new stadium's scheduled April 2008 opening. Information on tickets for the new ballpark can be found online at www.Nationals.com. On Sept. 30 the Nationals will end the 2007 season in Philadelphia.

D.C. United will continue to play in RFK with games both on Wednesday and Saturday, but for RFK Stadium, major league baseball is simply a thing of the past.

Black Pro Athletes Under the Microscope More Than Whites

BY STEPHEN KNOX
Contributing Writer

Last week, Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb got the whole nation's attention with comments he made on the HBO program "Real Sports."

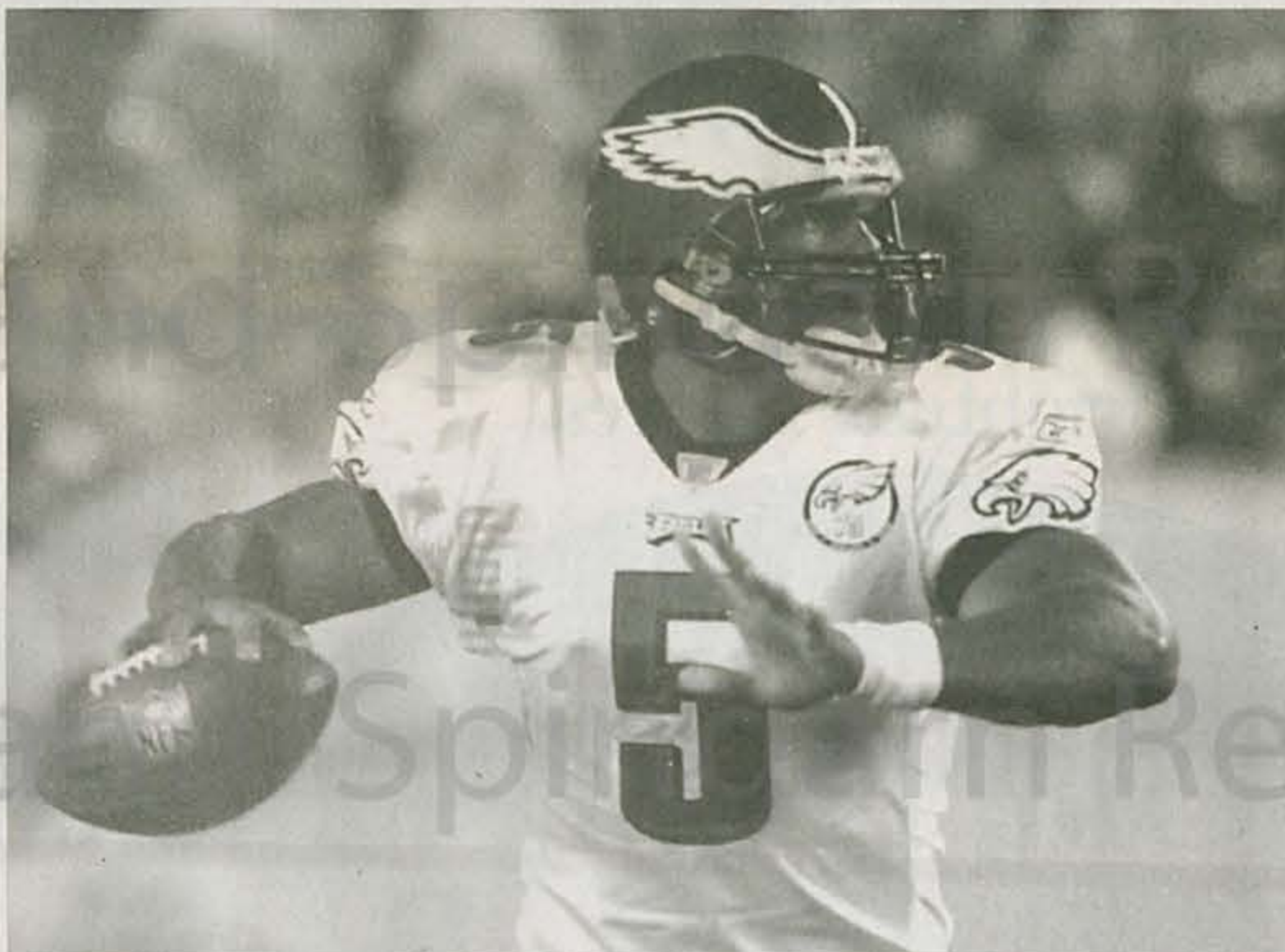
McNabb said that black quarterbacks in the NFL are held to a higher standard than white quarterbacks in the league.

Now that McNabb has spoken from the most important position in the most popular sport in America, it raises the question of whether black athletes are treated the same as white athletes.

Howard soccer player Greg Westbrook said, "The problem is in negative criticism. When a black athlete makes a mistake, it is magnified way more than when a white athlete makes a mistake."

Junior english major and cohort of WHBC's "Real Talk, Sports Talk" Michael Benjamin agreed with Westbrook.

Benjamin said, "Look at Michael Vick. The media



Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb recently came under fire for his comments about black quarterbacks in the NFL being under more scrutiny than white quarterbacks.

convicted him of dog fighting before he was even formally charged, while Tom Brady has

two children with two different women and he gets no bad press whatsoever."

Benjamin also said that the black athletes who contribute to society in a positive way are

not recognized.

"Atlanta Falcons running back Warrick Dunn has a foundation where he builds houses for single mother families in Atlanta," he said. "I happened to catch on a local small sports station, while O.J. gets arrested and it is all over CNN."

Benjamin continued, "Only four percent of sportswriters are black. It is impossible for them to understand how our minds work and how we should be portrayed."

Some believe that if black athletes want their image to change, then they should start acting appropriately in public.

University of Michigan journalism major and former Howard student Donnie Beacham said, "Many of the athletes in sports come from very rough environments, and are exposed to different things. So the playing field is not level, so it is unfair to always judge these athletes by mainstream America's standards."

Westbrook said he sometimes hates to hear black athletes do post-game interviews.

"You can cringe sometimes at the way these athletes talk on television," he said.

Westbrook raised the question of whether or not white America respects black athletes at all. "They respect black athletes strictly on their athletic ability, but not as human beings," he said.

Beacham said, "While a good percentage does respect our athletes, there are quite a few white Americans that think of black athletes as coons in a modern day minstrel show."

Benjamin said, "It's conditional respect. As long as the black athlete performs on the field, then white people love them. Once the performance level decreases or they make a wrong decision, white America jumps all over them."

As an example, Benjamin said, "Shaq has been the teddy bear of the NBA for years, but his play is decreasing and he just divorced his wife. He has been attacked in the media for something that the majority of Americans do anyway."

Howard Athletes, ROTC Members Face Similar Challenges

BY AVERY GREEN
Contributing Writer

The sun hasn't even begun to rise by the time Tyler Jackson heads out the lobby doors of Slowe Hall. The morning shuttles don't start running until 7:30 a.m., so he is forced to drive to campus in order to make it on time for a 6:45 a.m. line up.

On Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, students in the ROTC program begin their PT, or Physical Training, when most of Howard is still soundly asleep.

"Our training is different from Howard athletes for the simple fact that we're training to be physically fit, not collegiate competitors," Jackson said.

Both Howard athletes and students in the ROTC program have very demanding physical requirements, and both reward performance with scholarship opportunities.

But which is the more difficult of the two? Could any Howard athlete complete an ROTC physical training exercise? Are there other factors that play a part in a person's ability to complete these requirements?

Alison Richardson, a junior mechanical engineering major and AF 300 in the ROTC program, said, "It's more of a lifestyle than just an activity. When you're training, it's not for a game or an event, it's for your livelihood."

Stamina and consistency seem to be the hallmarks of both Bison athletics and the ROTC program when it comes to training. But it appears that what initially starts off as gruesome conditioning tapers off as teams focus on technical aspects of the game.

For example, the Bison football team starts practice with individual position emphasis. They then separate into offense and defense, where they analyze the upcoming opponents' tendencies.

After tackling and running drills, they continue on to the portion of the practice dedicated to special teams.

It is not until the very end of practice that the team spends five to 10 minutes on conditioning in the form of progressive wind sprints, also known as "gassers."

Jackson said that besides starting training at sunrise,

students in the ROTC program must complete several physical standards set forth by the APFT. "The Army Physical Fitness Test consists of a minimum amount of repetitions for sit-ups, pushups depending on your age group and a timed two-mile run," he said.

In contrast, the standards of athletes change almost every week. They have to live up not only to the expectations of their coaches, but also their teammates and Bison fans.

"Performance at meets was a big factor [for me], plus that fact that my coach noticed me progressing at practices," said Stephen Small-Warner, a junior track athlete who started as a walk on athlete and is now on scholarship.

But Small-Warner believes the ROTC program — which routinely trains with the track team — is harder than Bison athletics "because not all of them are necessarily athletes...[athletes] have been playing for years and they are prepared or know what is expected before the first practice."

He continued, "With athletes, we are often taught

to practice like you play, so it's easy to have fun during training, while in the ROTC program, PT is just one aspect of the many responsibilities that they have."

Jackson agreed, saying, "I don't think one is harder than the other, but I know I wouldn't be able to do some of the things the football and track teams do. And I'm sure there are certain things that we do that they might not be able to handle."

Scholarship opportunities for both groups are not easy to come by, as students must maintain a minimum GPA while still performing to their highest abilities without distraction.

"I can definitely understand what they go through because if you make strides during practice it's one thing, but if you're at a meet and you just happen to have a bad day, the coach will take that into consideration when its time for scholarships," Small-Warner said.

But Richardson said it is not as simple as that for ROTC students because the commitment goes beyond college.

Once out of college, ROTC students under contract



ROTC Students have rigid routines, much like Howard athletes.

must fulfill the required amount of years that the federal government has paid for their time in school, similar to a

college loan. The difference is these students pay in the form of service to their country.

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THE HILLTOP

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

September 20, 2007

Members of the Howard University Community:

I am pleased to announce the formation of a search committee that will lead the process to identify and select the 16th President of Howard University. This committee of distinguished individuals from both inside and outside the Howard University community will be led by General Colin Powell and Richard Parsons, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Time Warner. In addition, Dr. Ruth Simmons, President of Brown University, will serve as advisor to the committee.

This is truly a momentous time in the University's history as the Board of Trustees fulfills its most important fiduciary responsibility. A presidential search goes far beyond simply identifying and hiring the next chief executive. It is a deliberative, strategic process in which we must examine, understand and prioritize the opportunities and challenges facing the University, unify key stakeholders, and clarify the institution's blueprint for the future. This is indeed an invaluable opportunity for the Howard University community.

The Board of Trustees and I are confident that this search will result in the selection of a President with the vision and leadership skills to advance Howard University's distinguished legacy of excellence. The Presidential Search Committee is comprised of some of the most outstanding and experienced individuals any organization could attract to undertake such an important charge. Howard University is truly fortunate to have them, and will be well-served by their commitment and dedication to this task. In addition to General Powell and Mr. Parsons, the Presidential Search Committee includes:

- Dr. Charles E. Betsey, Professor, Department of Economics
- Trustee Starmanda Bullock
- Trustee Earl G. Graves, Sr.
- Trustee Marie C. Johns
- Trustee Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.
- Trustee Jack F. Kemp
- Dr. LaSalle LeFall, Jr., Professor of Surgery
- The Honorable Isiah Leggett, Montgomery County Executive
- Trustee Floretta Dukes McKenzie
- Trustee M. Kasim Reed
- Trustee James L. Silcott
- Mr. Marcus Ware, President, HU Student Association
- Mr. Larry Warren, Chief Executive Officer, HUI Hospital

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To support the Presidential Search Committee, we have retained Nathaniel Sutton, Managing Partner of the Heidrick & Struggles Education and Nonprofit practice. Heidrick & Struggles is one of the nation's premier executive search firms. You are encouraged to submit your nominations to Howard University Presidential Search Committee, P.O. Box 90961, Brentwood Station, Washington, DC 20090.

During this period, the Board wants to ensure an effective presidential leadership transition. To that end, the Board has established a Board Transition Committee to work closely with the President and the Administration. The Board Transition Committee's mission is to ensure that (1) short-term decisions are aligned with long-term strategic objectives; and (2) the constant focus remains on enterprise priorities and the timely execution of those priorities. The Board Transition Committee members include Trustees Gerald Prothro, Chairman, Audit and Legal Committee; Martin Payson, Chairman, Medical Affairs Committee; Robert Lumpkins, Chairman, Finance Committee; Marie Johns, Chairwoman, Academic Excellence Committee; Vice Chairwoman Renee Higginbotham-Brooks and myself. The Committee is working in concert with President Swygert to leverage his leadership during this critical period.

The Board also recognizes that during this very important time, it is critical to keep our key stakeholders informed of our intentions and the direction that we, as University Trustees, expect to take in ensuring operational effectiveness, continuity and execution of the presidential search and selection process. In July, the Board of Trustees initiated "listening tours" to hear the voices of our key stakeholders on their assessment of the institution and the leadership profile of the 16th President. To date, members of the Board have met with representative groups of faculty, students, staff, alumni, former officers of the University, and media personalities who are HU family members. These unstructured, informal sessions have provided us with great insight. Based on these discussions, I believe we share a common vision of Howard University's great potential, and we are bonded by a deep passion and love for the University. These gifts I am certain, will ensure that the University fulfills its aspirations. These "listening tours" were initial efforts to communicate with you and do not pre-empt the more in-depth outreach the Search Committee will conduct. Their efforts will include town hall meetings, focus groups, surveys and meetings with alumni in major cities. We encourage your engagement.

We look forward to working with the Howard University Family as we collaboratively build another great chapter in the history of this illustrious institution.

Sincerely,

Addison Barry Rand
Chairman of the Board



Marcus Bird - Cartoonist

HU Alert Could Save Time, Lives

On Friday, Sept. 21, two Delaware State University (DSU) students, both from the Washington, D.C. area, were shot on the Dover, Del. campus. Reports of the shootings reached the police at 12:54 a.m., according to a statement released by Delaware State University Police Chief James Overton.

The statement said that by 2:01 a.m., an initial warning notice was distributed throughout the university community and by 2:45 a.m. all students were secured in their dormitories. By 2:55 a.m. a revised notification was completed and posted in various campus buildings as well as the university's Web site and was recorded on the university's emergency contact line.

By 5:10 a.m. Allen L. Sessoms, president of DSU, cancelled classes for Friday, Sept. 21 and placed the campus on restricted access with only essential personnel being granted entry.

The response to the emergency situation on campus by DSU administration is a good example of how quickly emergency issues on campus should — and can — be addressed.

The main argument after the Virginia Tech shootings in April was that university officials waited too long to e-mail students a warning and that the university didn't do enough to protect its students during the emergency.

That argument has led some to believe the president of Virginia Tech should be replaced. From that situation, many universities have initiated emergency alert systems such as the HU Alert

system, which is designed to send text and voice messages to mobile phones in addition to e-mails to listed accounts registered on BisonWeb.

Many students can remember Howard having its own mini-emergency weeks ago when a prank call was received by the Metropolitan Police Department. The caller threatened violence against people on the 2400 block of 16th Street N.W. as well as against himself, only half a block from the Meridian Hill Hall dormitory.

Campus police and Residence Life acted swiftly in putting Meridian under lock down through the shelter-in-place pro-

cedure, and shuttles were diverted from the area until the scene was cleared.

However, students and faculty on the main campus were left either unaware or misinformed about what was going on near Meridian and information was misconstrued.

Students received messages from friends and acquaintances saying there was a sniper on top of Meridian, which was not the case. Later, some students falsely believed three students had been shot near 16th Street.

The way information was distributed by friends through text messages was a good show of community accountability, but it

also showed that more students need to enroll in the HU Alert system immediately in case another emergency situation occurs on campus or in the District with implications to Howard's campus.

If something like the shootings that happened at DSU happened on Howard's campus, word of mouth information and text messages from unknown sources would not be a safe way to get the word out.

Additionally, students should take into consideration that emergencies can happen at any hour of the day, whether or not classes are in session.

Waiting until a statement gets released by the university or the Campus Police Department to find out what is happening on campus is waiting too late in an emergency situation, especially when instant notification is available.

Enough blame is put on university administration and police for not handling situations, such as campus emergencies, to the best of their abilities. At Howard, we have a program that could save time, as well as lives, in the event of an emergency, and students cannot afford to ignore it.

The entire campus community needs to enroll in the HU Alert system immediately. After logging onto BisonWeb, a link under the Parking and Student Elections options that reads Alert HU will be available. It's a simple process that only takes minutes and could make a world of difference in the event of an emergency on campus.

Daily Sudoku

Directions:
Each row, each column, and each 3x3 box must contain each and every digit 1-9 exactly once.

7			9		4			
6			8					
4		8			6			5
	1				7			
3	4		1	8		5	9	
			5				4	
5			7			9		1
					3			2
		2		8				4

Do you want to write for The Hilltop?
Come to our budget meeting
MONDAY @ 7P.M.
WEST TOWERS (PLAZA LEVEL)

THE HILLTOP

"The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper"

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Now in its 84th year, The Hilltop is published Monday through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of more than 7,000, The Hilltop is the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial & Perspectives page are the views of the The Hilltop Editorial Board and those of the authors and do not necessarily represent Howard University or its administration.

The Hilltop reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors and any inappropriate, libelous or defamatory content. All letters must be submitted a week prior to publication.

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Good!
Submit Perspectives at:
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Look for the letter to the editor link under the options tab.

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CLASSIFIEDS

The *Hilltop* prints Hilltopics every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The first 20 words are \$10 and .25 for each additional word.

ALL CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE PAID FOR AND SUBMITTED SEVEN DAYS IN ADVANCE.

\$5 LATE FEE FOR ALL CLASSIFIED ADS NOT SUBMITTED SEVEN DAYS IN ADVANCE.

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The Xi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.

Presents:

"You have the Power to Stop Rape"

Wed @ 7:11pm 9/26/07

Drew Hall Lounge

The Apprentice:

A Resume

Workshop

Hosted by

Student

Experts. Take advantage of this opportunity!

Tomorrow at 7p.m. in the Cook Hall Clubroom. Business Casual Suggested, Bring Your Resume

Ohio Club

1st General Body

Meeting Wed.

Sept 26 @ 7:30

pm Douglass

Hall Rm 136

Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity, Zeta Phi Chapter

Rush Week 2007

"Brotherhood is the very price and condition of man's survival."
-Carlos P. Romulo

Sept. 24, Monday

(Informational)
"Learning from the Bruhs"
7:25 Locke Auditorium
Business Casual

Sept. 25, Tuesday

(Relationship Forum)
"I Need You To Survive"
7:25 Locke Auditorium
Business Casual

Sept. 26, Wednesday

(Game Night)
Fun and Games
7:25 Game Room,
Blackburn Casual

Sept. 27, Thursday

(Formal Rush)
"A Time To Reflect"
7:25 Blackburn Auditorium
Business Formal

University Fashion

Council

Meeting

Wednesday,

September 26, 2007

Fine Arts Building

Room 2009 @ 6 pm

"The Trials of style"

ASSC presents:

Meet your class boards

Night III

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Harriet Tubman

Quadrangle: Truth Hall @ 7pm

Sponsored by College of arts and sciences student council, SCSC, and the HU campus pals

Black Enterprise

How to write the perfect resume

tips from the expert

Date: Thursday, September

27, 2007

T

ime: 7:00p.m.

Location: Cook hall club-room

Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity Inc..

Alpha Tau Chapter Presents

Rush Week 2007

September 24th-29th

FLASHBACK: Visions of Purple and Gold

60's Monday 9/24 Meet Night II Blackburn 148-150

70's Tuesday 9/25 Looking to the Past for the Future Blackburn Gallery lounge

80's Wednesday 9/26 Dancing with the Brothers Annex Seminar Room

Thursday 9/27 Formal Rush Chemistry Auditorium

90's Friday Movie Night Locke Hall Auditorium

00's Saturday Community Service

*** All Events Begin at 7:16pm**



Howard University Classics Department
Study Trip to Rome and Southern Italy
May 11—24, 2008

Picture yourself here!
Rome, Tivoli, Amalfi Coast, Capri, Pompeii and much, much more!

For details visit the website:

www.coas.howard.edu/classics/classicalstudies2008.htm
or the Classics Department Locke Hall 254

